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THE INDIANAPOLIS JOURNAL

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The West, the central West and the far West will be better represented in Mr. Mc-Kinley's Cabinet than in any previous one,

This is not growing weather, but the public debt grows right straight along. For the Cleveland-Carlisle deficit-making policy December is as pleasant as May.

class of irritating, meddlesome legislation that should be let severely alone. The General Assembly should not waste any time in kindergarten legislation of that kind.

The indeterminate prison sentence bill is right in its main features, but it should prisonment of persons who are convicted of crime a third or fourth time. Such persons are confirmed criminals, and should be imprisoned for life.

Chicago's new electric railway charter a very advantageous one for does away with overhead trolper cent. of the gross receipts of the road during the life of the franchise. That sounds like business.

The movement on the part of representatives of the state institutions and those of the denominational institutions of the State to compromise their differences and agree upon an amended educational bill is in the right direction and ought to succeed. Every source of friction in the educational interests of the State should be removed.

If there is to be any legislation upon monetary questions by the next Congress, it may be necessary for Speaker Reed transfer Mr. Walker, of Massachusetts, to some other committee. He knows a great deal about banking-so much, in fact, that

House bill No. 112, introduced by Reprebest bills before the Legislature. It aims at limiting the power and regulating and curexpenditures of township trustees, and prevides effective means to this end. The place to begin retrenchment in taxation is to reduce the cost of local government, and that is the object of this bill.

The free-silver free-trade papers are declaring that the present tariff produces more revenue than did the McKinley law. The receipts during the first twenty-eight nths of the present tariff were \$358,867,544, while the receipts from the tariff during the first twenty-eight months the McKinley law was in force were \$451,358,294. When the figures are easily found, that sort of statement will bring lying into unnecessary dis-

It is not unlikely that the ex-Queen of Hawaii will make an appeal to President Cleveland to use his good offices with the Hawaiian government to secure her an indemnity for the loss of her throne, but it is very improbable that he would attempt anything of the kind in the closing months administration. He was badly the Hawaiian business at the beginning and will hardly care to invite a repetition of the experience.

Representative Roots's bill providing for the appointment of a legislative commis sion to visit and investigate the State institutions in advance of the meeting the Legislature, passed the Senate yestera suspension of the rules. it had previously passed the House by decided majority it will undoubtedly become law. It will do away with legislative junketing and is a decided step in the direction of business and legislative reform.

There may be some foundation for the statement that Mr. McKinley will recommend to Congress the creation of Department of Commerce, the head to be a member of the Cabinet and to have special charge of the registration of ships and the promotion of foreign commerce. At present subordinate official in the Treasury Departis very inadequately done. No other interest is more deserving of special attention and promotion than our foreign commerce and shipping industry, and they much better managed by a separate department than they are by a subor-The creation of such a dewould involve the abolition of the office of commissioner of navigation, or, at least, its transfer from the Treasury Department to the new one.

The decision of the United States Supreme Court in upholding the law taxing railroad, telegraph and express companies is important to the State not only in adding litherto this important source has been almost entirely over- aware that no such conference will provide States, notably Pennsylvania, any other than their commercial value, Supreme Court means that it has come to bullion, now 65 cents an ounce, cannot be will doubtless be followed by raised to \$1.29 an ounce by free and unlimother legislation on the same line. It is no ited coinage. They seem not to be able to the sheriff? In these days the evil is in more than simple justice that these great see the difference between an output of the increase of offices in order to give

ness, should be made to pay their full share of that commodity. They seem not to realof taxation. The decision of the Supreme | ize that doubling the price, or apparent Court disposes effectually of the charge that it is organized in the interest of corporations and monopolies.

A GROWING MAN.

When Mr. McKinley was nominated for price, and that wheat is worth 80 cents President there were those who had some misgivings if he were a big enough ably because Mr. McKinley's political repprotection was about have no other meaning than the largest use paper a ONE-CENT postage stamp; on a twelve or sixteen-page paper a TWO-CENT postage presidential stature. The fear has been proven to have been groundless. If Mr McKinley was not of presidential stature when he was nominated he has grown so rapidly since that no person would make such a suggestion now. He began to grow | private punishment with the lash would as soon as he began his campaign speech- act as a powerful deterrent of the offenses making. From the beginning he showed named. In fact, it so operates in Ontario, himself a past master of campaign where whipping has long been a penalty for For di- minor crimes. The Free Press has sound rectness, force, argumentative power, sense on its side, but the mere suggestion aptness of illustration and

felicity favoring such a punishment is sure to of expression his speeches never were bring the sentimentalists to the front in excelled. They were not confined to the violent protest. To a considerable class of tariff. They dealt with every important foolish people who fancy themselves reissue and every phase of public thought | formers of an advanced type the welfare and discussion. They were full of patriot- and comfort of convicted criminals is of ism, good sense and good feeling, strong more consequence than the condition of logic and aggressive Americanism. They their victims. It is argued by these softfurnished texts and raw material for other | headed as well as soft-hearted persons that speakers. In short, they raised Mr. Mc- such punishment is degrading and that self-Kinley very greatly in public estimation. respect cannot be restored to its recipient, Then came his letter of acceptance, a little as if the assailant of a woman were not tardy, but so admirable when it did come already too brutal and too lost to self-The bill prohibiting football belongs to a excellence. It showed Mr. McKinley in a worth considering. The truth is that modmore deliberative attitude than his speeches had done and raised him still further in public estimation. 'Every speech he made during the campaign emphasized this impression, as did the revelations of his personal, private and domestic life. Those very firm grasp of public questions and that he was a well-equipped, well-poised and self-governed statesman. This impression has been still further deepened by the selections thus far announced of the mem selected with special reference to fitness. It is evident that Mr. Mckinley does not intend to have a Cabinet of nobodies, mere make-weights and under secretaries. He i going to have an exceptionally strong Cabinet, and evidently is not afraid of being overshadowed. The appointments thus far made meet with universal approval and tend to strengthen the public conviction that he is entirely equal to the situation. Mr. McKinley is a growing man, and will

DOGS AND DOGS.

Some cynical philosopher, or perhaps

was a philosophical cynic, has said tha

he esteemed dogs. Perhaps observant dogs

have their own self-esteem enhanced by th

same cause, yet they are magnanimous

enough to continue to admit human being

ity and even confidence. From time imme-

companion among animals, his most loyal

friend and most faithful servant. Many of

the great men of earth have found solace

vorite dogs. "Lo, the poor Indian," thinks

that, "admitted to that equal sky his

faithful dog shall bear him company."

quoted with genuine feeling Byron's lines

telling how sweet it is to hear "the watch

dog's honest bark, bay deep-mouthed wel

come as we draw near home," and as many

thousands have been touched by the tender

fellowship between Rip Van Winkle and

poverty, and which, ill-fed and ill-housed

though he may be, returns his master's af-

fection with interest. "Love me, love my

dog" is one of the oldest proverbs extant,

and the owner of a dog will resent an in

The domestication of the dog must have

been a slow and curious process, and the

perfection to which it has been brought

the greatest naturalists has pronounced

"the completest, the most singular, and the

most useful conquest ever made by man.'

The transformation of the human race

high civilization is not more remarkable

Than the transformation of the wolf and

jackal family into the great variety of

beautiful and useful dogs now on exhibition

in this city. Widely different as they are

in size, shape, color, instincts, disposition

and what might be called mental charac-

teristics, it is plain that they all belong to

one family and have a common ancestry.

No two branches of the human family nor

any two individuals of it could be more

unlike than the mastiff and the terrier, the

bloodhound and the collie, the royal Dane

and the pointer or setter, the Newfound-

land and the fox dog, the greyhound and

the coach dog, yet it is as certain as any-

thing can be that these widely variant

types are all descended from domesticated

wolves and brought to their present dis

tinct types by a process of evolution, en-

vironment and natural selection aided by

intelligent breeding. As an illustration of

the results of these processes the splendid

collection of dogs now on exhibition in this

city is as worthy of study as would be an

assemblage of the most widely different

is more so, for every distinct type of dog

represents a distinct line of service and

usefulness, while there are some types of

humanity that do not represent anything

but their own selfishness and brutality. As

between human dogs and four-legged ones

for the free coinage of the two metals at

Probably the reason that the advocates of

the latter hold a higher place.

types of the human race. In one respect

a state of low savagery to one of

matter of no little importance. One of

sult or unkindness to it almost as soon

writing tearful articles to the papers in that State about the horrors of enforced idleness in prison. The horrors of idleness out of prison to men who want work and the individual who would arouse the tenprobably continue to be for some time to derest sympathies of a certain class of

claims a perpetual monopoly.

eans to over-refinement and feebleness.

Company in the event it does not get

put of the mines. Most intelligent men can

now see that two very large crops of corn

in succession have caused the decline in the

saulters of women. It would not re-estab-

lish the whipping post as a public institu-

tion, but believes that the certainty of

The bill to provide county homes for dependent children will, if made a law, have the effect of reducing the number of girls under criminal charge, but as waifs for whom there is no other refuge.

to their society on terms of perfect equal-The statement of a magazine that Inliana has more than one hundred poets eads the St. Louis Globe-Democrat to remorial the dog has been man's most beloved mark that "The best thing about them is their mellifluous silence, and the fact that they are only heard in statistics." The G.-D. evidently agrees with the chap who wrote: "Swans sing before they die: 'twere no bad thing if certain folk should die before they sing." That may apply to some of the one hundred Indiana poets, but there are others whom the people listen to gladly Hundreds of thousands of persons have when they sing. James Whitcomb Riley. Miss Evaleen Stein, B. S. Parker and Lee O. Harris never lack listeners. By the way. did anybody ever hear of a poem written by a Missourian?

Reader, Richmond, Ind.: In accordance his dog Schneider. The poorest colored man votes of the electors of each State for President and Vice President are now in the which usually he loves in proportion to his custody of the President of the United States Senate. Section 142 of the Revised Statutes of the United States says:

Congress shall be in session on the second Wednesday in February succeeding every meeting of the electors, and the certificates shall then be opened, the votes counted, and the persons to fill the offices of President and Vice President ascertained and declared, agreeably to the Constitution. This ceremony will take place on Wednesday the 10th inst.

The New York ministers in weekly meetng have resolved that Sunday newspapers re an unmitigated evil and ought to be suppressed. The propensity of the ministerial mind to draw sweeping conclusions from insufficient premises is singular. If the reverend gentlemen had only confined their censure to two or three of the New York journals all the world would agree with them. But there are papers and

Charles Dudley Warner said recently in a talk on literature for schools that he wished nobody had ever written a word for children. He spoke in haste. Had no juvenile books been written a great many men and women would have missed the de-'Jungle Stories." "Alice in Wonderland." and numerous other works that bring joy to the mature as well as to the infant

If the movement for the purchase and retention in this city of Parks's beautiful statue "Bacchante" does not take shape very soon the opportunity will be lost. This is the last week that the statue will be

INDIANA NEWSPAPER OPINION.

e matter of insurance legislation promthe Legislature. The bill that was drafted by a paid attorney of large companies is meeting with strong opposition from the smaller mutual companies and will probably be amended so as not to interfere with the business of these companies .- Seymour Republican.

At the beginning of a session scores and hundreds of bills are introduced by members. These bills are referred to the proper committees, whose duty it is to read, conagainst, or in amendment, will be made and the Senate or House will act. Give them time. We want no hasty legislation, tional monetary conference is that all are not much of any kind, but what we have

let it be right .- New Castle Courier. There is one office of a county that outaw in Indiana was somewhat | tions will do that. There are many people | perhaps, but now something better is friends a position. It would be better to The only logical reason can be that they gates to the national meeting at Dubuque, corporations, which enjoy valuable fran- 43,000,000 ounces of silver and 175,000,000 cut down the number, especially when they did not have the private arrangement or

chises from the States where they do busi- ounces a year so far as it affects the price are as unnecessary as that of coroner. In as Mr. Wanamaker more plously might put this county the office has become so insignificant that no one wants it, and at the last election it was necessary to hunt a man | tians and church members like Mr. Wanaup to get it filled. There is a better way price, of silver builion by free coinage at than the present and it should be found by the old ratio of Europe will double the outour Legislature.-Warren Republican.

No reform is more needed in our State than is the remodeling of our judicial sys-Courts are awfully expensive and it a truth that their expensiveness is not realized. We know their cost is great and yet it is far more than we figure. Instead of more courts the circuits need to be readjusted. If this were done the number courts. Indiana is behind her sister States in this regard.-Fowler Republican-Era.

was twenty-five years ago, when the out-The people over the State who have been put was 43,000,000 ounces to 175,000,000 ounces interesting themselves in reform in the innow. There is but one way for the nations surance laws are wondering about the actions of certain people in relation to bills to make it a legal tender at its market on insurance now pending before the Genvalue in gold on the day the tender is made, eral Assembly. The reasons for insurance reforms are so urgent, the time is so ripe That would be true bimetallism, which can for reform, the sentiment in the Legislature so solidly for relief from oppressive and of both metals at their commercial value. burdensome insurance laws that it is impossible to understand why there should be misrepresentation. There is no occasion for The Detroit Free Press recommends the a wheel within a wheel in this matter which so vitally affects the whole people.-Henapplication of the lash to a certain class of malefactors such as wife-beaters and as-

dricks County Republican. Why State institutions should be allowed privileges that are not accorded colleges and universities of equal and higher rank is hard to understand. The whole purpose of the bill now under consideration in the State Legislature is to give to State schools the right to grant diplomas to graduates which will entitle them to a teacher's license for life in Indiana. Butler, Franklin, De Pauw, Wabash and other dominational colleges and universities in this State are the equal of any of the State schools. That legislation should be only favorable to the State schools is wrong, and there is an unfairness about it that is appreciated by all who have heard the proposition stated. -Columbus Republican.

Few people have any idea of the expense incident to a jury trial in the Circuit Court. As an illustration we cite the case of "The State of Indiana vs. Grant Wright," in which defendant was tried last week for stealing chickens of the value of \$1.50. The amount to be paid out of the county treasury in this case is as follows: Twelve jurors trying the case, two days, \$48; one juror regular panel not in trial, \$4; clerk, sheriff and bailiff, two days, \$17; official stenographer, two days, \$10; allowance to defendant's atthat nobody thought of anything but its respect to have any sensitiveness or pride torney, \$30; total, \$109. The above amount does not include board of defendant in jai nor mileage of jurors, time of parties and civilization in certain of its phases witnesses attending the trial nor expenses of taking defendant to prison and returning him at the expiration of his term.

-Plymouth Republican. Now that the street-railway bill has been It looks as if "Doc" Patterson was going hanged so that it cannot affect any other to keep his promise to his neighbors that if city than Indianapolis and makes fair pronominated and elected to the Legislature vision for the protection of the Citizens' he would put a stop to the game of foot-It is hard telling what germ will come floating through the air next. Two or new franchise, the people of Indianapolis four years hence the boy who to-day with cannot see why any member outside the top and string enjoys the game of "plug city should take an interest in perpetuating in the ring" may be yanked before a magistrate and have read to him in icy tones monopoly which renders very inferior. House bill No. 5464, a law regulating the use of "tops, etc.," and then be thrown into a dungeon to be kept until he realizes valuable franchise. The rights of a city are what a base little thing he has been. The superior to those of any corporation which News is not one of the "personal liberty cranks that Sam Small speaks about in hi lecture, "From Barroom to Pulpit," but it does believe in an independence that denies There are difficulties in the way of makthe privilege to torpid-livered pessimists to cause the enactment of measures that bring the law's disapproval on things that afford wholesome pleasure to the many and are offensive only to the few.-Frankfort News.

A very large majority of our township trustees are honest, capable men, who use economy in their official capacity, but the system is often brought into disrepute by a few wavering men who cannot say no, who are really toon easily infigenced and duped by agents of supply companies and purchase superfluous supplies for which the people must pay in the form of taxes. The law in force forty years ago would, we believe, be more satisfactory and cost the people no more than the present system. Then there were three township trustees, one clerk and one treasurer, called the township board. Regular stated meetings were held at the center of townships to transact township business; no business could be transacted exceptanell a regular or special meeting, and then a majority of the board had to be present. People were no more honest then than now, but the raising of township orders was next to impossible without locating the forger and was never attempted.-Auburn Dispatch

The Constitution does not provide nor contemplate that the partisan majorities shall be taken into account in apportioning the State, but lays down in plain and unambiguous terms the rule by which it shall be It provides that the senators and representatives shall be apportioned among the several counties according to voting population. This rule can be strictly applied by the Legislature only by the use of Legislature attempts to engraft upon the constitutional rule thus laid down one which takes into account party majorities. It sounds well and pleases the imagination to talk of making an apportionment which shall give each party an equal chance to carry the Legislature, but if party majorities can be constitutionally taken into account for the purpose of preventing partisan advantage, they can and will be taken into account for the purpose of giving such advantage. If it is constitutional to frame senatorial or representative districts on the basis of Republican or Democratic majorities for any purpose, or with good motives. why may it not be done for other purposes and with bad motives?-Angola Republican.

BUBBLES IN THE AIR.

Customary. He-Would you scream if I kissed you? She-I usually do. Sociological.

"I hold to the theory that a man has the right to do what he pleases with his

own money. "Of course you do. You are single." The Canny Scot. "Have you read 'The Sonsie Brae?' It

"Oatmeal gems, I suppose?" said man who has sworn off on Scotch dialect.

Embarrassed. First Chorus Girl-I do feel so queer in these short skirts. Second Chorus Girl-I know; we all feel

First Chorus Girl-May be I will. know, it is the first time I ever appeared in such a rig. I have been doing living

THE FAVORED WANAMAKER

Reflections Concerning His Intimate Relations with the Almighty.

In connection with the great fire in Phil-

adelphia the other day, it was reported

that Mr. Wanamaker, whose store narrowly

signal favor out of the midst of all those

his unfortunate neighbors, whose property

was burned-he who owns ten millions.

What about these unluckier neighbors?

Why did not Providence protect them?

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal:

escaped burning, announced his intention of building a church in recognition of the special act of Providence by which he was spared. If, as is stated, Mr. Wanamaker does his own insuring, i. e.. does not carry any insurance policies, he certainly has escaped a vast loss, and if he believes, as he declares he does, that God intervened to protect him from that loss, building a chapel or an ordinary church is a very nigordinance, which he will introduce at the gard return. Moreover, other people, who next meeting of the City Council. also believe in God, might suggest that George H. Thomas Post. God's will should be consulted as to the nature of the return; that in these times of suffering, God, who is said to love mercy better than sacrifice, would be better pleased with a donation to the poor firemen or employes of the dry goods king, who claims to stand so near the councils of God, to be a kind of business partner, as Mr. Wanamaker, ought to know and heed His general policy and wishes better, It looks as though Brother Wanamaker was driving a sharp bargain with the Almighty. It is certainly a gilt-edged security that he has in this providential protection, to be singled out for the Almighty's

Still, some of them, at least, must be Chrismaker. Is he then an object of special care and favor with God, because of the more prominent character and influence of his piety, or because he has already built one church in Philadelphia?

If all of Mr. Wanamaker's life and interests are under the special patronage of Providence, then every event in his career must be providential and for the best, among others also his failure to be elected to the United States Senate the other day, Then Mr. Wanamaker should have given some similar token of gratitude over that of circuit judges would be lessened and we result. But the papers reported some rewould be able to do the business with fewer | marks from him on that matter that evinced a lack of benign gratification, even of Christian resignation. Or does Providence sometimes lapse in favor of the evil one, who in this case assumed the shape of Senator Quay? These questions may seem to some frivolous or contemptuous, but I assure you they are intended as neither, They only show that the view of God which Mr. Wanamaker gave utterance to must excite ridicule or contempt in this rational age.

> The whole country knows that Mr. Wanamaker amassed his wealth by the usual business methods, by push, advertising, attention to details and large, systematic management. In the conventional ethics of the business world, where competition is admitted to be right and necessary, these methods are regarded as commercial, morally neither good nor bad. In the ideal ethics of Christ's code they would not be called good, for Mr. Wanamaker, to achieve the success he possesses, has had to ruin scores of small tradesmen by underselling them. Accordingly, if God is aware of Mr. Wanamaker at all it must be with disapproval, for we cannot but believe that Christ came nearer to God's will and mind than does that compromise between Christ's lofty unselfishness and the world's low selfishness, which forms the common standard of Christendom. It may be that Mr. Wanamaker knows this, for he is intelligent as well as honest, no doubt, and that his gifts to God or the Presbyterian Church are in the nature of contributions to the conscience fund. If he does know it, his remark is cant; if he doesn't, it is superstition. He may build fifty churches, but it is doubtful whether he will be able to fill them, at any rate, with serious, thinking people, for the time is past for teaching effectually such unworthy views of God's character. The only kind of providence that such people can believe in is the light and leading of God's mind in them. Following this leads to success, i. e., the spiritual success. Material success has nothing to do with it. It belongs to another plane entirely. Corydon, Ind., Feb. 2.

CURFEW LAW WORKINGS

REV. T. I. COULTAS OBTAINS VIEWS FROM SEVERAL CITIES AND TOWNS.

Excellent Results Obtained-The Minister Talks to the Local Council of Women.

The February meeting of the Local Counil of Women was held yesterday afternoon and there was a larger attendance than usual. The business session was given to reports of the legislative committee, which has effected the introduction of two bills. one for compulsory education and one for school suffrage, which have met the approval of and have been presented by Senator Duncan. The "age-of-consent" bill was not introduced, on account of a similar one from another quarter. A new bill which will be prepared will be relative to the representation of women on the school bcards. The delegate to the council from the German Ladjes' Aid Society read a resolution asking exemption from taxation of all property of less value than \$1,000. Mrs. Sewall, who is chairman of the legislative committee, reported that Governor Mount indorses the first two bills, relative to compulsory education and school suffrage.

The reading of the new constitution was postponed in order that two visitors, Mrs. Kate Waller Barrett, of the Rescue Mission work, and Mrs. Moffett, deputy supreme the Maccabees, might be introduced and address the council. Mrs. Barrett gave one of her eloquent talks about the work in which she is engaged, and spoke of what the Local Council had done in the way of advancement of morals in this city. She said she hoped the women of the council would rid themselves of some of their conventionality and read and comprehend the great social evil and use their powers to build up a strong sentiment against it. "One of the weapons is education," she said. "I have never met an educated woman in a house

Rev. T. I. Coultas was called on for his address on "The Curfew Law for Minors." Mr. Coultas defined the curfew law which has been in existence for many years in the countries of Europe. There are over three hundred towns that have the curfew law, and among the larger cities are Co-(O.). Topeka (Kan.) and Omaha (Neb.) Mr. Coultas has written to officials of a number of these towns for information in regard to the ordinance, and his paper was largely made up of the reports re-The ordinance at Topeka forbids minors under sixteen from being in the in public places unless accompanied by par-

to October, and the other months of the loaned and the profits paid to the stockyear the bell is rung at 8 o'clock. The fine A letter from S. S. McFadden, of Topeka, says there have been no arrests since the law went into effect, and that people have respect for it. At Waveross Ga, the hours when minors must be off the streets are from 10 p. m. to but another name for interest, and the only a. m., and the fine is \$25 or thirty days in prison or on the chain gang. At Kansas City, Kan., the law is a success, and the letter from Neboville, Ill., said that the law there was "not only a benefit for the young, but a reminder for the old to go home. Reports were also read from Lincoln, Neb. St. Joseph, Mo., and North Platte, Neb. No. children have been sent to the reform school since the passage of the ordinance, two years ago. The Omaha law is suspended on account of some quibble. Mr. Coultas himself believes a curfew law in Indianapolis would be of the highest value; that since the wine rooms and brothels cannot be closed, keeping minors off the street will be of great effect. He agreed with one writer who said, "Children not only ought to have good parents, but they should also have the right to be well governed when green. If "where is my wandering boy to-night" could be answered to the mothers who ask it there would be rauch pain and sorrow, and many parents in Indianapolis would be shocked if they could know where their children are at night. Said Mr. Coultas: "Men are made or lost before the age of thirty; much evil is done before twenty. The young need protection. It seems as if a conspiracy were made between the powers of evil to ensnare our youth. It is better to prevent than to cure, better to prevent the criminal than to build prisons." In closing she urged the women of the council to do all in their power to have "curfew ring to-night." The paper was given, at request of the chairman of the legislative committee, to the commit-

tee, who will use it in framing their bill for he passage of the curfew law in this State, possible, and in this city, at least. The council indersed the resolution of the So ciety of Hygiene, relative to placing baths n the new police and dispensary building. Mrs. Sewall invited the members of the council to meet Miss Susan B. Anthony this evening at her home, on North Pennsyl-Councilman John Puryear has a curfew

George H. Thomas Post had as guests last evening Department Commander Caylor, Past Department Commander Johnston, Representative Leich, of Evansville: Barrett, of New Harmony; Crum, of North Liberty; Rifenberg, of Syracuse; M. B. Butler, of Salem; J. M. Barlow, of Plainfield: E. F. McCrea, Senator Kerns, Auditor Garrigus and several other visitors. It was voted to accept the invitation of the Tabernacle Church for Memorial Sunday.

Modern Woodmen of America. The Modern Woodmen of America met in Engineer's Hall, Massachusetts avenue and bership of about 150 members and is new in this State. E. E. Georgia, of Muncie, and C. H. Thomlinson, of Cicero, were elected president and secretary. Four dele-

Ia., were named.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING.

It Develops Little More Than Bickering Between Representatives of Rival Associations.

At the open joint meeting of the building and loan committees of the House and Senate held in the agricultural rooms, Statehouse, after the adjournment yesterday evening, there were some very acrimonious remarks offered by representatives of rival associations. It was necesary for Chairman La Follette to remind two or three men that the committee was there to receive information and hear suggestions, not to go into controversies between jealous agents. Some of those who wished to be heard could not be listened to on account of the lack of time, but another public meeting will be held.

L. C. Walker, attorney for the American Building and Loan Association, one of the State organizations against which Senator Ellison's bill is directed, was the first speaker. He said that if the Legislature was ever called on to be conservative it is now. He declared that complaints were not being made by the stockholders of the associations but by "certain newspapere," and interested banks and trust companies. He said that he was not there to say no abuses existed, but to say that they should be approached with care. The business of the building and loan associations of the State, he said, was almost equal to that of the national banks. Such legislation as had been sugested (he referred to Senator Ellison's bill) would place two-thirds of the associations in the hands of receivers, precipitate a panic and work olis submitted a report on Senate bill 61 such financial evil that it might become necessary to call a special session of the Legislature to remedy the evil. Speaking of admitted abuses he said that the thing most complained of was that people did been heard of the minority report. He not get back what they put in. Whether | asked that the Senate order the substitute or not the expense fund was was of no great interest to him, although personally he regarded it as a protection to stockholders. The asociation with which he was associated, he said, had no expense fund and charged no withdrawal From his own standpoint he preferred as sociations that had fixed expense funds, as they were safer, inasmuch as the expenses of the officers could not exceed a certain amount. With no expense fund the officers might be inclined to allow large expense accounts before dividing the profits among the stockholders.

"Abolish the expense fund, if you will, said he, "but do not assume that you wil thereby abolish expenses." Judge Walker scouted the idea that th original plan of building and loan association., when meetings were held in corner groceries, was better than the plan of state organizations. The latter class, he said, were of benefit to towns all over the State where there were no local associa-It was his observation that the state associations were careful in making loans. He declared that it was not the associations that were charging usurious interest but the trust companies, which loan money at 8 per cent. and then charge per cent, commissions which the borrower never gets back. He was opposed to the proposition to abolish premiums on the ground that they were but a pretext for usurious interest, but said the Legislature ought to provide that no company charge one borrower more pre-

mium than another. If the Legislature saw fit to abolish withdrawal fees entirely it would be satisfactory to him, but he thought that was unfair to those who remained in the association. A charge of 50 cents or \$1 a share for withdrawals before the first year expired he thought would be fair. "Is the expense fund necessarily evil?" asked Senator La Follette.

"Not at all. It might be well to regulate he amount. In concluding his remarks Judge Walker urged the committee to investigate carefully, not among the newspapers, among the people of the State, after expressing a strong protest against the proposition to require the secretaries of the associations to report the names of all stockders to the county officials for taxation. Why don't they propose that the c shiers of the banks be required to make such re-Goaded down by the malevolence of the financial institutions of Indianapolis. they are asking you to strike down the building and loan associations Horace E. Smith, who said that he was

the attorney for a half dozen associations. said that there ought to be legislation to regulate withdrawals, unfair practices in relation to which were responsible for complaints and distrust. The most outrageous feature of any association he regarded as being the one-dollar-a-share contingent entrance fee, a fee the stochiolder was not required to pay unless he lithdrew. There is no law on the statute books authorizing such charges, he said. It was such things as this which had cast odium on associations whose managers were fair and

wanted to deal honestly. "If you settle that one single thing right said he, "you will solve the whole

nuestion. Thomas B. Orr. of Anderson, representassociation, also spoke. He thought that there ought to be legislation providing the capital stock of associations might be unlimited in order to prevent the formation of two or more associa tions under the same management. A constreets, alleys or public places or loitering | tingent fund should be created for all associations to pay losses that were bound to ents or custodians or on business. The bell occur. In answer to questions he said that fund of 3 to 5 per cent. would be enough for this purpose. holders with other dividends. He believed such a provision should be compulsory. Abolish premiums, he said, at the same time not limiting associations to the legal rate of interest. They should be permitted to charge not more than 10 per cent. interest. The term premium, he said, was thing the name did was to confuse stockholders along with such terms as "fines," "dues," etc. He believed in "installments." simplifying the business. If the man is paying 8 per cent, premium and 6 per cent, interest, all interest in reality, he ought to know and so understand it. Fines should also be abolished when the investor falled to put more money into the association for a week or whatever the time might be. He regarded it as all right to fine the borrower who failed to meet his obligations. He also declared that the expense fund ought to be abolished, and with it the membership fee. Mr. Orr said that he did not want to drag the name of any particular association into his discussion, but for the sake of illustrating his objections to the membership fees, paid for on withdrawal, he read statement made by the Government Building and Loan Institution, No. 2, made to A. Bennett, of Anderson, who was in the association six months. He had taken ten shares of stock, on each of which he had deposited \$3, or \$30 in all. He was credited with interest on the loan fund amounting to five cents. On withdrawal he was charged: Withdrawal fee of \$1 a share, \$10; 7 cents a share a month for six months, \$4.20; fines for one month, 50 cents; total, \$14.70, leaving a balance due him of Mr. Orr was questioned by Judge Walker and William Bosson as to what became of

the contingent fund set aside for losses? They asked when it was distributed to borrowers? He said it was not distributed at all. Then they argued that the 3 to 5 per which should have been divided with the stockholders as profits was hoarded up for the benefit of the last comers. William Bosson read a statement signed by George A. Bingham and John E. Cleland, who were appointed to examine into the affairs of Government Building and Loan Associations 1, 2 and 3. It was addressed to A. C. Daily, who appointed them to make the investigation at the request the associations. After setting out a associations Dec. 31, 1896, the report closes with the statement:

monthly payment of dues, interest and from the appraisement of the real estate held as security for loans, we are satisfied our judgment, the real estate held by the associations will yield its cost. The guarantee funds provide additional security gainst contingencies. The officers appear to use care in making loans and in maniging the affairs of the associations." Mr. Bosson declared that while Mr. Orr had disclaimed any intention of being personal he had personal motives in reading the statement concerning the Bennett case. It was a statement that would be given publicity by the newspapers, he said. the committee was about to adjourn he said that he would like to have time to make additional statements. He was somewhat surprised at the turn things had taken, as he expected to hear bills dis-

You have not even discussed the bill prepared by Bellamy Sutton," said he. ve not heard that bill mentioned."

Mr. Sutton was angered. this your bill?" he asked, shaking the the commis

statement Mr. Orr had left with the committee almost under Mr. Bosson's nose. "Yes, it is my bill," said Mr. Bossor, in some heat.

"Well, we've heard it discussed at length at any rate," said Mr. Sutton. Senator La Follette interceded. He said that the committee had no idea of what the statement contained until it was read and did not know that a representative of the company was present. Senator La Follette said that the committee desired to give every one a hearing, but that he thought the committee ought to hold an executive session at its next meeting, so as to agree, if possible, on the general features of a la v. After these were in shape a public meeting could be held at which the representatives of the building and loan associations could be heard. He said that Charles A. Bookwalter, who represented the county league of associations, desired to be heard, among others who were present but did not speak yesterday. seemed to meet the approval of the committee. The next public meeting will be announced later. Bellamy Sutton, who was a member of the building and loan commis-sion, was not in favor of holding any more public meetings. He said that the same arguments made yesterday would be repeated, and that there would be more bickering between agents of rival associations. William Bosson is remembered as one of the most persistent of the lobbyists of two

years ago. There was at that time a strong and successful effort to defeat Senator Mc-Cord's bill. Senator McCord is a member of the committee this year,

SENATOR GOSTLIN'S VIEW OF THE STREET-RAILROAD BILL.

An Elaborate Legal Argument Against the Measure-Only One Sig-

Just before the noon adjournment of the Senate yesterday Senator New obtained recognition. He said that when the committee on affairs of the City of Indianap-(the street car bill), Senator Gostlin, who asked time to prepare a minority report, was given until 10 o'clock Tuesday morning. Senator New said that nothing had bill sent to the printer, so that it could be placed on the desks of the Senators this morning. Senator Gostlin was well toward the front of the Senate chamber, He said that he had not been able to get the report completed until a few minutes before, but that it was now ready for presentation. Senator New offered no objections when it was suggested that the minority report be submitted with the bill, He declared, however, that he was anxious to get it in shape for action. Senator Gostlin's minerity report advances about the same arguments against the bill as those made by attorneys of the Citizens' Street-railroad Company at the public hearings. In it he says:

"Under the constitution, laws creating corporations must be general. (Article 11, Section 13.) In the form recommended by the majority of the committee, the bill a plies to street railways in Indianapolis, and this, in my opinion, makes it unconstitutional. The bill in its original form applied to every street railway company in the State, and, while objectionable, it was not in violation, probably, of the constitu-

tion. " " " "While the act reserves to the Legislature the right to amend or repeal, I don't think it is within the letter, and it is certainly not within the spirit of the reservation, to pass the law, which, under the guise of an amendment, repeals the law as to companies acting under it in said city. That this is the purpose and effect of the law is obvious. An act so framed violates both the Constitution of the State and of the United States, as impairing the obligations of the contract between the State and the company. *

destroyed to-day by the passage and era fercement of this law, a law of the same character may be enacted to-morrow, dealing in the same manner, or ever more summarily, with the street railway company of Evansville, Ft. Wayne, Terre Haute or any other city or town in the The general law for the incorporation

of steam railroads reserves to the Legislature the right to amend or repeal the . It is as competent for the Legislature, under that reservation, to deveroy the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad Company, the Indianapolis & Vincennes Railroad Company, or any particular railroad company it may single out, as it is by this bill to destroy the Citizens' railway or y other company now operating in Indianapolis. * "

"The bill, considered as purely local, should not be passed. Its only justification is the claim made by its advocates that the company now operating in Indianapolis violated its contract by which it has the right to occupy the streets, the time to expire on the 18th day of January. 1901, and set up a claim to continue in operation in perpetuity; while those representing that company argue to the committee that this contract was violated and repudiated by the city authorities before any denial of its obligation was made by the company, and the assertion of perpetua rights was not made by the company until the city authorities, nearly eight years be-

fore the right of the company to the use of the streets until 1901, had expired. "I'ne power of the Legislature should never be invoked to settle law questions pending in the courts. It is a well-estabsished rule that the Legislature will never interfere for the purpose of determining the rights of persons or corporations while their rights are being made subject of investigation by the courts at law. Parties must elect whether to ask redress through the Legislature or the courts, and, having once made that election, they should stand by it until they have got a final hearing and determination through whichever body they have sought redress. * * *

"I recognize this as being a fight chiefly between the company now occupying the streets and another company who wants to occupy the streets; and the rights of the parties being now in the courts, to be determined by the court. I think we should leave it there until a final decision is had and after that will be time enough for us to act; and the Legislature should not now take a part upon either side in a con-troversy in which the people of this State have no interest further than is stated that is, to protect the rights of persons generally in their property. For this reason, I recommend that the bill and amendments be indefinitely postponed.

A SUBURBAN FIRE.

Two Houses Discovered in Flames Before Daylight.

The West Indianapolis fire department made a run to the homes of Oliver Hopper and John Morris, Nos. 32 and 39 Ashland street, about 5:30 o'clock yesterday morning, where a fire had started in Hopper's house from an overheated stove. When the department arrived Hopper's house, No. 32, was completely enveloped in flames and the rear of Morris's home was also burning flercely. Companies Nos, 17 and 18, from the city, came over to assist the suburb's department, but it was not found necessary for No. 18 to lay out its hose. It was nearly an hour before the fire was extinguished and during this time the West Indianapolis street cars were blocked, to the venience of the early patrons. Hopper says statement of the financial condition of the | that he arose at 4 o'clock and built a fire in the kitchen stove, after which he again retired to bed. About 5:10 o'clock Mrs. White, a neighbor, discovered the house in flames, and, seeing no one about, rushed premium are being met by borrowers and over to the house, broke in a window and warned the inmates. It is claimed that instead of turning in the alarm immediately that the associations are well protected. In Mr. Hopper began trying to extinguish the fire himself and to rescue as much furniture as possible. The flames were noticed by 3 C. McCain, two blocks away, about o'clock, and he telephoned in the first alarm the department received. The damage to the two houses will amount to about \$2,000. The loss of Mr. Morris on both house and furniture is fully covered by insurance, Mr. Hopper has only his house insured for \$500.

> Monetary Commission Selected. C. Stewart Patterson, who was president of the Indianapolis monetary conference, has completed the list of members of the commission that he was authorized to appoint. He has not given the list to the public on account of the fact that all have not signified their intention of accepting the ppointment. It is understood that H. H. Hanna, of this city, is to be a member of